

Please amend claim 21, as follows:

21 (Amended). The method of claim 20, further comprising reversing a phase of the first predetermined signal at predetermined intervals.

REMARKS

Re-examination and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 17-24 and 52 contain allowable subject matter, and that these claims would be allowable once Applicant amends the claims to address a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

By the current amendment, Applicant amends independent claim 17 and dependent claims 20 and 21, paying particular attention to the concerns raised by the Examiner. In this regard, the Examiner alleged that independent claim 17 specifies a second predetermined signal, but does not specify a first predetermined signal. Applicant respectfully traverses this ground of rejection, noting that the claim language "predetermined signal" represents the allegedly omitted element. However, in order to advance the prosecution of the present application, Applicant amends independent claim 17 (along with dependent claims 20 and 21) to change "predetermined signal" to ---first predetermined signal---.

Further, while reviewing the claims in the present application, Applicant noted a typographic error in claim 17, wherein the term "[remote]" is inadvertently included in one recitation of the phrase "first communication [remote] system". Accordingly, Applicant has amended this language to read as ---first communication system---, in order to be consistent

with the remainder of the claim.

Applicant notes that the above discussed claim revisions have not been made to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art. Accordingly, the claim revisions should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Applicant wishes to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the patentability of the claims in the present application. Applicant does not disagree with the Examiner's indication that certain identified features are not disclosed by the references, as noted by the Examiner. However, Applicant wishes to clarify that the claims in the present application recite a combination of features, and the basis for patentability of these claims is based on the totality of the features recited therein.

In order to advance the prosecution of the present application, Applicant elects, without prejudice, to cancel claims 1-16 and 25-51. However, such cancellation is not to be taken as an acquiescence of the appropriateness of the rejection, and Applicant expressly reserves the right to submit similar type claims in another application.

In view of the current amendment, only claims 17-24 and 52, which the Examiner indicated contains allowable subject matter, remains pending in the application. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to re-confirm the allowability of claims 17-25 and 51, and to pass the application to issue.

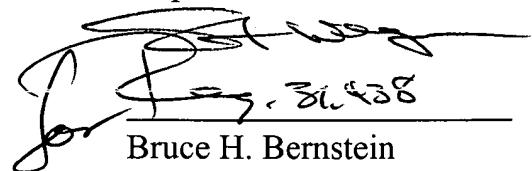
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

In view of the fact that none of the art of record, whether considered alone or in combination, discloses or suggests the present invention as now defined by the pending claims, and in further view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the Examiner's action and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested and are believed to be appropriate.

Should the Commissioner determine that an extension of time is required in order to render this response timely and/or complete, a formal request for an extension of time, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), is herewith made in an amount equal to the time period required to render this response timely and/or complete. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any required extension of time fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

If there should be any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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June 13, 2003
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APPENDIX A - MARKED UP CLAIMS

17 (Amended). A method for performing a startup session to establish a high speed communication session, comprising:

having a first communication system transmit a first predetermined signal to a second communication system, the first communication system and the second communication system both supporting a half duplex operating mode;

detecting the first predetermined signal at the second communication system, the second communication system responding to the first communication system by transmitting a selected signal;

halting, for a predetermined time period, the transmission of the first predetermined signal by the first communication [[remote]] system when the selected signal is detected by the first communication system, a second predetermined signal, indicating a half duplex operating mode, being transmitted by the first communication system upon an expiration of the predetermined time period, the second communication system stopping the transmission of the selected signal upon detection of the second predetermined signal; and

acknowledging the half-duplex mode by the second communication system by the turning OFF of the selected signal, so that a high speed half-duplex mode communication session is established.

20 (Amended). The method of claim 17, wherein having the first communication system transmit the first predetermined signal comprises transmitting the first predetermined signal from at least one signal family.

21 (Amended). The method of claim 20, further comprising reversing a phase of the first predetermined signal at predetermined intervals.